692 cases if the defendant is a Bahrain citizen and the plaintiff is a foreigner the case is heard in a Joint Court. The language of the Bahrain Courts is Arabic and no barristers or wakils who are not Bahrainis are allowed to appear in them.

647 At the eastern end of the sea road[1] is the Adviserate, the Ruler deals with affairs of State in this office on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Beyond the Adviserate is H.B.M.'s Political Agency which was built early in the century.

743 At the western end of the Sea Road is the Government Hospital. It includes a men's and women's hospital, administrative offices, X-Ray, laboratories, operating theatres and out-patients' rooms. There are beds for men and for women, with a few private rooms in each section. The Indian Staff occupy a large three storied building close to the hospital and behind the Women's Hospital is the house of the British nursing sisters. On Awal Road there is a large Public Health Office and beyond it a T.B. Sanatorium and a Mental Hospital. Opposite the Police Fort there are also two small isolation hospitals. In Muharraq there is a maternity hospital in the centre of the town and a clinic on the sea front. In Hedd and in some of the villages there are also small clinics. The Government Medical Staff includes a number of British and Indian doctors and nurses.

871 Education in Bahrain is not, at present, compulsory, but every year
658 the number of boys' and girls' schools increases. The oldest school in Bahrain is the Muharraq Boys' School in North Muharraq town, which was built in 1919, and there are now 28 government schools including village schools, town schools, a boys' secondary school, and a technical school where carpentry and engineering are taught. At the beginning of the 1952-53 term there were 4000 boys and 2,500 girls attending government schools. Except in the secondary school, education is free and every year scholarships are given by the Government and BAPCO to enable students to obtain advanced education at the American University of Beirut. There is a students' hostel in Manama which accommodates about 100 boys, here students from the villages and other towns are housed while they attend the more advanced town schools.

[875] Most of the teachers are Bahrainis though there are a certain number of teachers from neighbouring Arab countries. English is taught in the higher classes as well as the usual subjects. All the schools close during the summer from about the middle of June till the end of September. Some of the government schools are among the most noticeable of the modern buildings in Manama.

871 In addition to the Government schools there are a number of private schools including a European day school at Awali, Catholic, Persian and Indian schools in Manama and a girls school run by the mission of the Dutch reformed Church of America. The Oil Company also has a trade school for its Arab employees.

[1] [at Manama -- Analyst]

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Anti-Malaria Control. Control measures were continued on the same lines as in former years linking up with the Oil Company's campaign of the East and West central areas, and in addition a system of residual spraying on a large scale was introduced and the area of activities extended to cover practically the whole of the Island. The maximum labour employed at any time consisted of 27 semi-skilled and 70 unskilled workers under two supervisors.

Malaria transmission is restricted to two periods, the first from March to June, and the second from October to January. Breeding, however, is perennial and the number of breeding places reported and treated was :—

	Anopheline.	Culex.	Anopheline and Culex.
Town Areas	188 ..	1,340 ..	129
Garden and Country Area ..	8.050 ..	40,617 ..	18.163
Total ..	8,238	41,957	18,292

Town breeding places are water storage containers, exposed sub-soil water, shallow wells, cesspools and faulty drains. The present building campaign is adding daily to the number in the form of cesspools and inadequate drainage. In the gardens and country areas, breeding occurs in badly maintained irrigation channels and drains, wells, borrow pits and stagnant pools resulting from an overflow.

Larvicidal measures consisted of oiling and suspensions to deal with water collections, weeding and canalising water channels and the use of larvivorous fish. A larvicidal oil containing Diesel 70 per cent., crude 20 per cent. and waste motor 10 per cent. with or without D.D.T. 1.5 per cent. was found to be most effective and economical. The measures employed against adult mosquitoes were fogging by Tifa machine, and residual spraying by Knapsack sprayers. Gammexane P.520 and D.D.T. were the chief insecticides used.

The incidence of malaria has been on the decline for some years past and is no longer a major problem. As the disease is not notifiable, it is not possible to define its exact proportions, but a spleen count carried out amongst 4,556 schoolboys gave a rate of enlarged spleen of 3.5 per cent. with the following figures for the most malarious areas :—

School.	Total number of Boys.	Number of enlarged spleens.	Percentage.
Sitra	120 ..	29 ..	24.0
Khamis	281 ..	48 ..	15.0
East Rafaa	140 ..	21 ..	15.0
Tubli	60 ..	8 ..	13.0
West Rafaa	63 ..	8 ..	12.5
Karzakan	63 ..	6 ..	9.5

These figures show a decided improvement on those reported in a survey carried out some years ago when the average village spleen rate was much higher. The Bahrain Petroleum Medical Department reported a rate of 3.15 per cent. of malaria cases for the year with 0.4 per cent. occurring in the first transmission period and 2.75 per cent. for the second period. These cases were diagnosed on the presence of parasites in the blood and covered a group of 7,350 local employees from all over the Island.

Both these sets of statistics will be available in the future and will give an indication of the trend of the disease.

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School Medical Service (Boys). This service was inaugurated in the early part of the year[1]. The staff consisted of a Medical Officer and an Arab nursing orderly. The scope of the service was routine medical examination of all pupils, treatment of minor illnesses with the referring of the more serious cases to hospital, education in elementary hygiene and the supervision of school sanitation.

1 [A.D. 1952-53. -- Analyst]

4: Bahrain G-5 (no date) 1953 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

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There are 19 Boys' Schools on the Islands with an attendance of 4,318 pupils locatedas follows :—

School.		Number of Pupils.
West Primary	Manama	666
East Primary	Manama	195
East Kindergarten	Manama	453
Secondary	Manama	165
Technical	Manama	54
Old Kindergarten	Muharraq	305
New Kindergarten	Muharraq	364
Primary	Muharraq	687
Samhij		96
Hidd		340
Budayia		167
Khamis		271
Tubli		62
Sanad		20
Aali		68
Kazakan		86
West Rafaa		64
East Rafaa		136
Sitra		119
	Total	4,318

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All these pupils were examined during the year and the results noting the defects and other relevant information recorded on an individual school medical card.

The most common defects were :—

Defect	Number cases...	Percentage Town School.	Country School.
Trachoma and Conjunctivitis	1250	20.9	52.7
Defective vision	413	7.5	15.4
Enlarged tonsils	223	5.5	3.9
Enlarged spleens	182	1.4	12.3
Skin diseases	136	0.5	10.7
Corneal opacities	88	1.6	3.2
Squint	37	1.0	0.3

The number of defects was on the whole, much higher among boys attending country schools than boys at town schools and their rate of growth was slower between the ages of 11 and 16. (Fig. 1). A lower standard of living, malnutrition and poor sanitary conditions in the villages contribute towards this discrepancy but it is hoped that the extension of anti-malarial activities, the school medical service and, if possible, the provision of a school meal, will help to remedy this state of affairs in due course.

The measurement of the weight and height of all pupils was carried out and recorded graphically on each boy's school medical card. This procedure over a number of years should be of immense value in detecting disease and assessing health, as loss of weight, failure to gain, or cessation of growth may be early indications of such various conditions as tuberculosis, sub-acute rheumatism, malnutrition, chronic disease of an essential organ, etc. While every care was taken to ensure reasonable accuracy, the anthropometric technique employed was liable to a certain measure of error as it was not possible to provide at, or carry around to each school, a beam scale weighing machine, or a proper height measuring scale. In addition, it was often difficult to estimate the correct age, as births are not registered in Bahrain, and many children especially in towns, gain admission before the school entrance age of seven years, and are shown as being of that age. As a point of interest, comparative figures in respect of weights and heights between groups of English and Bahrain schoolboys are shown (Fig. 2) from which it will be seen that at all ages, English schoolboys are heavier and taller than Bahrain schoolboys.

The condition of school buildings varied, but in all cases overcrowding was common. The new schools are well built, lighted and ventilated and are provided with ample recreation space and adequate latrines and ablution facilities. Most of the others are reasonably good, but require improvements in lighting, ventilation, condition of floors and desks as the case may be. Samahij is, however, quite unsuitable and a new building is required. Some of the town schools are situated in congested areas and accordingly lack adequate playground space. All country schools must have good washing facilities and the pupils given routine baths. This would reduce their high incidence of disease resulting from dirt and uncleanliness.

The service has been well received by the teaching staff and has been given their full co-operation and help.

Port and Quarantine. The number of people entering Bahrain, their place of entry and the number arriving without valid certificates of vaccination were recorded as follows :—

Number of arrivals.	Place of Entry.	Number without valid vaccination certificate.
67,172	Manama Jetty	9,292
22,107	Muharraq Airport	721
2,112	Muharraq Jetty	684
2,344	P. C. L. Jetty, Sitra	nil
111	Sitra Port	nil
Total 93,846		10,697

This was an increase of 18,710 arrivals on last year's figures. Once again the heaviest traffic passed through Manama Jetty and also the largest number without vaccination certificates. This traffic was mostly local, coming from neighbouring Gulf ports by launch and dhow and necessitated a strict watch, but no quarantine measure other than vaccination was necessary.

Muharraq Airport still lacks adequate control arrangements for the segregation of passengers from the general public until they have passed through quarantine. To assist in this matter, a separate enclosure has now been provided for non-passengers, but due to lack of organisation it has not achieved its purpose.

The number of arrivals at Muharraq Jetty was small but important in that so many of them did not possess the necessary vaccination certificates.

Neither of the two remaining places of entry at Sitra presented any difficulty.

It was not necessary to place any person, ship or aircraft in quarantine and no case of quarantinable disease occurred during the year.

Medical attention was afforded to 1701 members of ships' crews, 1,258 attending the Port Health Dispensary at Sitra and the remaining 443 at the Public Health Dispensary in Manama. The Bahrain Government Hospital provided hospitalisation facilities and sick personnel from overseas tankers were accommodated in the Bahrain Petroleum Company's hospital. There were 36 heat cases with two deaths, otherwise illnesses were of a routine nature. Attention was again drawn to the inadequacy of arrangements on board many ships plying in the Persian Gulf in respect of insufficient supplies of cold drinking water, medicines, salt tablets, refrigeration, ventilation and air-conditioning facilities.

The Mecca Pilgrimage of the year 1372 Hegira (A.D. 1953). It is estimated that 2,578 pilgrims passed through Bahrain. All came by air, and a transit camp was established at the Airport. There was no case of infectious disease and all possessed the necessary certificates of vaccination against small-pox and cholera.

EDUCATION

Boys Schools

(From the report of Mr. Ahmed Umran, Director of Education).

Schools. Three new village schools, at Sanad, Tubli and Karzakan, were built and presented to the Government by the Bahrain Petroleum Company. The schools were fully furnished and in each place there was space for a playground near the building. His Highness Shaikh Sulman was present at the opening of the Tubli school and His Excellency Shaikh Abdulla, Minister of Education, attended the openings of the other two schools. The gift of these three buildings was much appreciated by the Government and by the people of the villages for which the schools provided education.

A large new school, on the Muharraq sea front, for small boys, was opened at the beginning of the term, with this school and three new village schools, and some additional class rooms in existing schools, it was possible to increase the total number of boys in the state schools by 610.

The building of these three schools roused immediate demands from other villages for schools to be built in their districts. Some of these requests came from villages within easy walking distance from schools. The desire for schools and sometimes for dispensaries is not always governed by real need; the existence of a school now seems to confer on a village a certain cachet. It was decided by His Highness on his return from England that three more village schools should be built by the Government, at Jidhafs, Asker and Jaw, the last place being the most distant inhabited village on the western coast. Towards the end of the year work was begun on these schools.

The growth of schools in the villages has had some repercussions. In the past the Shia villages provided the tenants and labourers in the date gardens, most of which are owned by Sunni Arabs. Landlords now realise that when the village boys acquire education they will no longer be content to work in the gardens, or as fishermen, as their fathers did before them. There is already a shortage of local labour for the date gardens and little competition to lease them. The town-dwelling landlords therefore do not view with enthusiasm the spread of education in the villages.

Staff. Every year the expansion of education makes it necessary to employ more teachers; those who complete their training in Bahrain are insufficient and have not enough experience to fill all the posts so each term the number of foreign teachers increases. Among most people this is regarded with disfavour, although there is a tendency among some to assume that because a teacher comes from abroad he must necessarily be better than any local product. Again in 1372 more teachers were recruited from neighbouring countries. The Director of Education, with the valuable assistance of the British Council in Beirut, enlisted 22 Lebanese, Syrians and Palestinians and he obtained from Cairo 5 Egyptians teachers to fill vacancies made by retirements and to provide staff for larger schools. At the end of the year the number of teachers in the boys schools was as follows :—

Egyptians	10
Indians	2
Syrians	6
Lebanese	24
Palestinians	23
Others	3
Bahrainis	136
Total ..	204

There was a continued improvement in the standard of English in the Secondary School, due principally to its being taught by a British teacher lent to the Government by the Bahrain Petroleum Company. This arrangement has proved extremely successful.

1 [A.D. 1952-53 -- Analyst]

875 **Teachers Training Courses.** Eight students graduated at the end of the school year from the teachers training class for secondary school students. They were posted to village and primary schools. At the beginning of the next term fifteen new students joined the class.

Evening classes for teachers were held during the term with an examination for certificates on the completion of the course.

Special Courses. In March, 1953, for the fourth time, the British Council Representative in Basra arranged a week's English course in Bahrain. This time the course was taken by Mr. W. R. Keight, M.B.E., of the British Council and Mr. W. Hedley, the British teacher lent by the Bahrain Petroleum Company. The aim of the course was to teach masters and students in training for teachers, the correct use of the Oxford University English Course books.

In the summer eleven senior primary school teachers attended a refresher course at the American University of Beirut which was arranged for teachers from Bahrain and other Arab states. They lived in the British Council Hostel and had their meals in the University.

873 **Higher Education.** Four more boys, who passed out of the Secondary School, went to Beirut University for further education, three of them had scholarships from the Government and one had a scholarship from the Bahrain Petroleum Company. Two students were nominated for scholarships in Baghdad schools, allocated by the Government of Iraq to boys from Bahrain. One of these boys, however, did not take up the scholarship but entered the American University of Beirut at his own expense.

Again some of the Shaikhs and merchants sent their sons, sometimes after finishing only primary education, to schools and colleges abroad, in Beirut, Syria, Egypt and England, in one case a member of the Ruling Family was sent to a University in America. Privately made arrangements for educating young men abroad are not always successful, students who go to Europe, not under the auspices of the Government, seem disinclined to stick to one line of learning, sometimes they wander from one school to another which is an expensive waste of time.

873 177 183 It is very doubtful whether at present the education of Bahrain boys at schools in England is beneficial to them or desirable. A few boys who were at school in England have returned to Bahrain and if they can be taken as typical of the results of a European education then it is clear that the experiment is not usually successful. Parents, who in many cases have never been in Europe, send their sons to English schools with the hope that they will return equipped and eager to help their fathers in their business. The boys return. They have acquired some education, sufficient to make them critical and contemptuous of many things in their own homes and country, they resent having to resume the life which they used to lead and they have no inclination to settle down in Bahrain.

● 871 The Bahrain schools provide primary education for all and secondary education for a limited number of boys. The standard of education is about on a level with that in similar schools in other states in the Middle East. It is not proposed that higher education should be introduced in Bahrain, this can be obtained in neighbouring Arab countries, particularly at the American University of Beirut where 31 boys from Bahrain are now studying, 16 hold scholarships from the Government, four have scholarships from the Bahrain Petroleum Company and 11 are studying there at their own expense. In addition, the Government has sent six young men to study religion in Mecca and in Iraq.

872 Another 20 Bahrain boys are being educated, at their own expense, in schools and colleges in England and in the Middle East.

658 The policy of the Government is to give scholarships for higher education to boys from Bahrain schools to universities in the Middle East; it does not send boys to schools in England. It does, however, send young men from various government departments to do courses in England in the type of work on which they are employed in Bahrain. These candidates are sent at Government expense or, sometimes, they are granted bursaries by the British Council. This arrangement has produced satisfactory results in the case of men from the Passport Department, Municipalities, Technical School, Electric Department, Public Works Department and State Police. Men who have held positions of some responsibility for some years in Government service are improved by such courses in England and do not return to Bahrain with unsettled minds.

Secondary School. At the end of the year there were 168 boys in the school. At the end of the school year 20 boys graduated; nine became school teachers, seven went to Beirut, Egypt and Iraq for higher education and four either joined their parents in business or obtained employment in Saudi Arabia. 873

A new class with a special teacher, was started with the aim of providing a two years commercial course. The 12 students who joined this class are being taught typewriting, book-keeping and business methods. The course appeared to be very successful and it was decided that a second class, on the same lines should be started next year.

School Hostel. There were 84 boarders in the hostel throughout the year, distributed as follows:— 871

Attending	Secondary School	37
„	Technical School	15
„	Primary Schools	25
„	Teachers Training School	7

Yusuf Shirawi continued temporarily to hold the post of Warden, which he relinquished when he went to the United Kingdom to enter Glasgow University.

Town Primary and Village Schools. In the towns the four primary and three infants schools were full to capacity throughout the year. In Muharraq a new infants school was opened, owing to lack of space in the Muharraq primary school classes of the lower primary stage were opened in two of the infants schools. In Manama it was not possible to take in all the children who were on the waiting list for admission. 872

Consideration is being given to building more primary and infants schools in Manama and Hidd.

In some of the village schools full primary courses were introduced, up to third form standard. In future village schools will provide a six years programme similar to the course in the town schools.

Transport. One of the difficulties in opening more village schools is the matter of transport. Almost all the teachers live in the towns of Manama and Muharraq and even those teachers who came originally from the villages almost invariably move to the towns when they obtain employment as teachers. Local bus services are unorganised and erratic and cannot be depended on. The department has to maintain an expensive transport system for taking teachers to and from schools and for conveying boys to special classes and to games. [487] 872

Medical. A school doctor was appointed, under the supervision of the Senior Medical Officer and a system of medical records has been started. The doctor paid regular visits to all the schools and dealt with minor ailments, other cases were passed by him to the Government hospitals.

The health of boys during the year was satisfactory.

General. During the Spring holiday a group of boys from the school hostel visited Zubara, on the coast of Qatar, where they camped for several days.

Other young boys went into camp at Safra, near Rafaa.

Finance. The amount spent during the year on boys' schools, excluding the cost of building and excluding the Technical School, was Rs. 20,22,500/-. 658 871

The cost of educating one boy at school in Bahrain for a school year, of nine months, was approximately Rs. 400/-.

1 [H.D. 1952-53 -- Annual]

871 875 **Statistics.** The numbers of teachers and students in the boys schools at the end of the year was as follows:—

School.	Teachers.	Boys.
Secondary School	20	168
Manama West Primary School	29	679
East Primary School	13	298
Muharraq Primary School	35	720
Hidd Primary School	16	356
Manama Infants School	13	475
North Muharraq Infants School	13	388
South Muharraq Infants School	10	358
East Rafaa School	7	154
West Rafaa School	6	73
Budiya School	7	171
Khamis School	11	270
Sitra School	7	135
Samahij School	4	101
Tubli School	3	64
Sanad School	2	23
Karrakan School	4	85
Aali School	4	62
Total	204	4580

Girls Schools

(Report by Lady Belgrave, Directress of Girls Education)

872 In 1372 three new schools were opened, one in a hired house in Manama, one in a building which used to be a Police station, in Muharraq, and one in West Rafaa.

Zahra School in Manama and Mariam School in Muharraq were made into Kindergarten schools with first and second Primary classes. The school in West Rafaa has only four classes, one Kindergarten and three Primary, as it is only for the children from a group of houses at West Rafa, the other schools cover all the Primary years from class one to class six. It is very much more satisfactory to have the really small children in separate schools. The second year secondary class was started.

We again had excellent reports about the girl at school in the Lebanon, at the end of the year she was transferred to The British Syrian Training College in Beirut where the teaching is in English.

The nurse continued to work in the schools visiting one or two schools each day with very good results, but owing to domestic reasons she resigned at the end of the year. An arrangement was made with one of the dentists to treat children whose teeth needed fillings.

The health and cleanliness of the children has improved very visibly since regular medical work was undertaken.

875 Staff is still a problem, especially now that we have the Secondary School. We try not to engage Bahrain teachers with only a Primary certificate, but owing to the fact that the Secondary School has only been in existence for two years there is a gap in the supply of teachers, the better students preferring to continue studying. To bring more teachers from abroad creates a problem of accommodation, but more will have to be enlisted next year.

[A.D. 1952-53 -- Analyst]

We are already seeing the satisfactory results of having higher qualified teachers in the Kindergarten and lower sections of the schools, the children who are now coming up to the fourth year are much better grounded and able to advance further than the children in the higher classes. Those in school now will certainly make better teachers than their elders. 872

The needlework on show at the Annual Exhibition was as good as ever, although less time had been given to it especially in the higher classes. Undoubtedly many of the girls have a real aptitude for embroidery and it seems a pity not to develop it to the full. 874

There were nine Primary and one Secondary Schools during 1372, with a total of 2272 students. 1 871

Technical School 874

(From the report of Mr. Said Tabbara, Headmaster, Technical School).

At the beginning of the year there were 66 boys registered as students at the school, 20 in the carpentry section and 46 on the mechanical side, at the end of 1372 (October 1953) the total number of students was 70. In addition to the ordinary students 17 Bapco employees did a special course at the school during the school year.

The school programme was the same as in the previous year and there were no changes in staff. Ahmed Ali Shoumali, one of the local teachers who started as a student in the school and did two years in the Cairo Technical School before becoming a teacher, some years ago, was sent to England for a course of instruction in Technical School teaching.

Transportation of students to and from Muharraq was made in the school bus whose body was built by the students last year.

Six students took their final examination in June 1953, five of them were successful. Two of these young men joined the Bahrain Petroleum Company, one joined the P.W.D. and two others are working in the bazaar.

Both health and attendance at school during the year were satisfactory. The usual show of work done by the students was held in the Spring.

There is at present an urgent need for wiremen in Bahrain and this need will increase when the Gas-Electric Scheme develops. Many of the electricians now working in Bahrain are foreigners though some local men have been successfully trained in the State Engineer's department. The Technical School is to be enlarged by the addition of a large new workshop, new plant is on order to replace some of the existing plant and a new branch is to be opened next year for training students as practical electricians. For this purpose one of the senior students now in the school will be sent to England to do a course and a teacher will be engaged from abroad to take charge of the new branch. This development has been planned in conjunction with the State Engineer. 874 464

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1 [A.D. 1952-53 -- Analyst]

659 **Aerial Survey.** One of the most important items in general use is a map, and throughout history it has been found that the mapping of new areas has been among the first of man's 133 activities.

114 The first reliable maps of Bahrain was produced in 1905, following a survey of the island which was carried out under the direction of Lieut. Colonel F. B. Longe, R.E., Surveyor-General of India. This map, copies of which can still be obtained in the Land Department, is a very good map and shows towns, villages, tracks, mounds and contours, but as it was produced many years ago, since when there have been many changes in the towns and villages and in the area under cultivation, it was thought desirable to carry out a new survey. Messrs. Hunting Aerosurveys Ltd., were commissioned to make an aerial survey of Muharraq Island, Manama town and the area south of Manama as far as the coast. This work was carried out in December 1951. In May 1952 the survey was extended by arrangement with the Bahrain Petroleum Company to cover the whole of Bahrain Island and the neighbouring islands.

During the first survey both vertical and oblique photographs were taken and by the end of 1952 a considerable amount of interesting material had arrived in Bahrain. It consisted of 51 oblique photographs produced in two sizes, 10-in. × 12-in. and 5-in. × 5 in. The series of vertical photographs covered the whole of the area which had been included in the survey.

From the vertical photographs maps were produced, one covering the whole of Muharraq Island, Muharraq town in seven sections at a scale of 200 feet to an inch, the area south east of Manama as far as Jufair, also in seven sections, on a scale of 200 feet to an inch and the town of Manama in thirteen sections, one for each district, a scale of 100 feet to an inch. In addition, mosaics of Manama and Muharraq were produced. All these photographs and mosaics are on sale to the public and can be obtained from the Land Department.

Following the first survey, the Bahrain Petroleum Company made available to the Government all the material which they had obtained from the aerial survey which had been carried out on their behalf and they also provided valuable information from their land surveys which included an initial survey of the town of Manama which was done some months before the aerial work. Last year all the available information was collected and a map was hand-drawn on the basis of this information. Hunting Aerosurveys was instructed to produce a map of Bahrain, in four colours, on the scale of 1 inch to the mile. The map is now in the hands of the printers. It will cover the whole of Bahrain and Muharraq islands as well as the nearby smaller islands, but not the Hawar group. It will contain inserts showing the town areas of Manama, Muharraq and Awali. This map will be on sale in London and New York, as well as in Bahrain, on plain paper or mounted on linen or folded on linen. To produce this map information has been obtained from the Survey of India Office, the Royal Geographical Society and the Bahrain Petroleum Company and from the War Office map of 1939 and with the information now available it will be a reasonable task to revise the map, in future, should it require again bringing up to date after some years have passed.

SUNNI WAQF DEPARTMENT

(From the report of Shaikh Atiyyatallah bin Abdurrehman AlKhalifah, Superintendent of the Department)

647 The Department is controlled by a committee of Sunni merchants and by a Superintendent
●871 and clerical staff, the latter are paid by the Government. All Waqf property is administered
795 by the Department which pays out of the revenue collected from the property the salaries and emoluments of mosque officials, it also contributes towards the cost of the religious school in Manama and towards the expenses of some young men who are studying religion abroad.

5: Bahrain G-5 (1920-1937) 1937 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

EDUCATION

•871

Formation of an Education Committee.

The progress of education during the last ten years has not been altogether smooth, but the origin of some of the troubles which have occurred dates back to the time when schools were first started in Bahrain. In 1919, Shaikh Abdullah bin Isa returned from his first visit to England filled with enthusiasm for education. Bahrain was in a prosperous condition, as the pearl market was flourishing, and when the public were asked to subscribe to a fund for starting schools they responded generously, and over three lacs were collected. An education committee was formed under the presidency of Shaikh Abdullah, whose members were local merchants chosen rather on account of their wealth than their learning, many of them being entirely illiterate. Haji Yusuf Fakroo, a Persian merchant of Muharraq, was appointed as treasurer, and very soon acquired almost complete control of finance and administration.

Muharraq School Built.

The committee decided to build a large school beyond the northern edge of Muharraq town; it was unfortunate that a site in a more central position was not chosen for the school. The cost of building the school was said to have been about two lacs, but this sum included the cost of a quantity of material which was ordered by the treasurer from India and which did not arrive in Bahrain. To-day the school could be built for less than a quarter of this sum and, even taking into consideration the decrease in the price of building, the amount which was alleged to have been spent upon building the school was incredibly large. For many years much publicity was given in Syrian and Egyptian newspapers, which have always taken an impertinent interest in Bahrain educational affairs, to what was described as a case of gross mismanagement of public money. The school was opened with a teaching staff which included several highly paid Egyptian and Syrian masters. Shaikh Hafiz Wahba, who is now the representative of His Majesty King Ibn Saoud at the Court of St. James, was for some time the headmaster of the Muharraq school. A second school was opened in Manamah in a house in the centre of the town, which is now the Manamah girls' school.

[875]

Education.

For some years after the beginning of the period which is dealt with in this report the two schools were nominally under the management of the committee, but in fact they were run by the treasurer and the Syrian headmaster of the Muharraq school. Educational results were disappointing: boys who were two years at school were unable to read and write, and most of the boys who left the school after learning for several years were incapable of filling the simplest posts in the Government offices. Though attention was given to teaching the sons of important people, most of the boys received a very scrappy education. The examinations, which were held in public at the end of each term, were entirely unreliable tests of education. The boys' fathers attended these examinations, and when the boys gave wrong answers the parents usually applauded, and it was considered inadvisable to correct the boys in front of their fathers, who were equally ignorant.

The members of the committee took little interest in anything except the financial advancement of their relations and friends, who were appointed as teachers. One of the headmasters of Muharraq introduced a number of his own relations, and the pay of the teachers depended not upon their ability but upon their friendship with the headmaster and the committee. In general, nepotism flourished to an extraordinary degree.

At that time it was impolitic to question the administration of the schools. The amount paid by the Government on account of education during 1344 (1925-1926) was Rs 48,000/-; in the following year only Rs 20,000/- was spent, but in 1346 (1927-28) the annual grant towards education was raised to Rs 46,000/-. It was during this year that the Honorable the Political Resident, then Colonel Haworth, pointed out to the Bahrain Government that, in comparison to the revenue, the annual expenditure on education was very small. 'Education,' he wrote, 'is the dominant factor in Bahrain.' A small school was opened in Rafaa and another school in Hedd.

Jaffarieh School.

In 1347 (1928-29) the expenditure on education was increased to Rs 57,000/-, but in addition to the Rs 32,000/- which was paid to the treasurer of the education committee, this sum included the cost of building the first four classrooms of the new school in Manamah which was intended for Shias. Out of the Rs 13,000/-

5y Bahrain G-5 (1926-1937) 1937 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

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which was spent on the school during the year, Rs 5,000 - was contributed by public subscription. The school was managed by a committee of Shia notables, and a young Iraqi from Baghdad was appointed as the headmaster. His family had originally lived in Katif, and after being in Bahrain for some time he was discharged, as his active sympathy with the Shia subjects of His Majesty King Ibn Saoud made him a possible cause of political complaint. Owing to the lack of suitably educated men among the Shias in Bahrain, most of the senior masters at the school were subjects of Iraq. From its beginning the progress of the school was hampered by the dissensions among the members of the committee.

Opening of a Girls' School.

In the same year a school for girls was opened in Muharraq in response to a demand for female education by some of the more progressive and enlightened Arabs of that town. The clerical and conservative Arabs in Bahrain disapproved very strongly of this innovation. They said that it would increase immorality because, if the girls could read and write, they would correspond surreptitiously with men outside their own house. The school was publicly denounced in the Friday mosque, but in spite of this it has been a flourishing institution since it started. The school owed its existence mainly to Shaikh Abdullah bin Isa and Shaikh Mohamed Ali Zainal, the much-respected Hedjazi pearl merchant and educationalist, whose arguments convinced the general public that the school would be beneficial.

Appointment of a School Inspector.

The following year, 1348 (1929-30), was a year of disturbance, changes, and reforms. After a long period of expensive and unproductive school administration, the public began to demand a better return for the large sums of money which were paid every year by the Government to the treasurer of the education committee. The sudden dismissal by the education committee of a headmaster of the Manamah school who had quarrelled with the Muharraq headmaster caused a crisis. The Manamah headmaster was a popular man, and his supporters, who thought that he had been badly treated, openly criticised the conduct of the committee, especially that of the treasurer, and the unsuitable authority which was held by the Muharraq headmaster. Shaikh Abdullah bin Isa came to the conclusion that if the schools were to be properly managed it was essential that their finance and administration should be under the direct supervision of the Government, and that a qualified inspector of schools should be appointed. Mr. Faik Adham, a Syrian recommended by the President of the Beyrout University, who held a degree from that university and also a degree from the Islamieh College, was appointed as inspector of schools. His wife, a qualified teacher, was made the headmistress of a new school for girls which was opened in Manamah.

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Strike of Students and Masters.

The headmaster of the Muharraq school and many of the members of the education committee bitterly resented the appointment of a school inspector and what they regarded as the interference of the Government in school affairs. For many years they had mismanaged educational matters with impunity and no question had been asked about the accounts. When the treasurer was asked to explain certain financial transactions he promptly sent in his resignation, which was accepted. This was the signal for trouble. Without any warning the headmaster of the Muharraq school declared a strike of teachers and students. This action was intended to affect all the schools, but actually only the Manamah and Muharraq boys' schools took part in the strike. For several days the boys marched about the towns in procession in a typical Egyptian manner, making noisy demonstrations and delivering speeches against the Government, which they afterwards admitted had been taught to them by the masters. There was certain amount of disorder, and damage was done to the Muharraq school. Shaikh Abdullah immediately took strong action: he sent for the two headmasters, who refused to appear, but wrote a long letter, making ridiculous demands. They were promptly dismissed and sent back to Syria, where they organised a venomous press campaign against the Bahrain Government, which was taken up by several newspapers in Syria, Iraq, and Egypt. The schools were closed for ten days by order of the Government and then re-opened. At first the attendance was small, but soon the normal number of students returned and the schools settled down to their ordinary routine, which continued undisturbed until the end of the term. This demonstration was undoubtedly encouraged by some of the members of the committee whose authority from that time was deliberately curtailed by the Government.

5: Bahrain G-5 (1926-1937) 1937 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

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Most of the parents of the boys disapproved of their children's behaviour, but they said that they could not prevent them from doing what they wished. Parental control in Bahrain is almost non-existent, and boys of twelve years of age and older usually act independently of their parents' wishes. Fathers frequently complain that they would like their sons to go to school, but as their boys do not wish to do so they cannot make them attend school.

Reforms in the Schools.

In 1349 (1930-1931), Rs 61,000 - was spent on education, which included the cost of completing the new Manamah school. The school was a large, handsome building capable of accommodating about five hundred boys, with a central hall, the largest room in Bahrain, which will seat over six hundred people. At the beginning of the year some trouble was caused by the Shia school committee and the members of the old education committee. An attempt was made to combine the Sunnis and Shias on one committee, but although the Sunnis agreed, the Shias refused to sit on a mixed committee. The presence of the Government's inspector was still much resented by some of the masters and by people who previously had undue influence in school affairs and finances. The curriculum of the schools was entirely re-organised and a simpler range of subjects was taught in all schools: subjects such as physics, music, and advanced mathematics, which were previously part of the programme and which were badly taught by unqualified teachers, were omitted. English lessons were given only in the higher forms. Several new masters were recruited from Syria, and three young Bahrain men who had been educated at Government expense in Beyrout were taken on as masters. The pay and the contracts of all masters were placed on a proper footing, and their salaries were made to depend upon their abilities. Shaikh Abdullah bin Isa became Minister of Education and was responsible for all matters concerning schools and education; the committees continued to exist, but instead of being an assistance they continually hampered the progress of education. By the end of the year there were over 500 boys and 100 girls attending the Government schools and, owing to the proper supervision of accounts, the monthly cost of running the schools was Rs 3,600/- instead of Rs 5,600/-.

Disappearance of School Committees.

During the following year, 1350 (1931-32), the expenditure on education was Rs 45,000/-. Owing to the internal disputes among the members of the Shia school committee the attendance at the Jaffarieh school dwindled to about fifty boys. Many of the Shias removed their boys from school because they objected to a Sunni school inspector. During the year the Sunni committee gave up any pretence of taking an interest in the school because they were no longer able to appoint the masters and to decide their salaries, so eventually this committee was allowed to disappear and, after a general quarrel among its members, the Shia committee was dissolved. The control of the schools remained in the hands of Shaikh Abdullah, assisted by the inspector of education and, when necessary, myself.

Amalgamation of Manamah Boys' Schools.

The year 1351 (1932-33) was a lean year financially. The salaries of all Government servants, including the staff of the education department, were subjected to a cut, and economies were made in every possible direction. The expenditure on education was reduced to Rs 34,000/-, but in spite of this the number of students increased, and from an educational point of view the year was satisfactory. The most important change was the amalgamation of the Sunni and Jaffarieh schools. The Jaffarieh school became the Manamah boys' school and the old Sunni school was taken over as a girls' school. The change was resented by most of the Shias, who adopted a dog-in-the-manger attitude. Although they refused to send their boys to the Jaffarieh school, they objected to its being used by Sunnis. At the same time another school was opened by a young man, Ibrahim al Arayadh, who had been dismissed from the department of education after the disturbances in the previous year. This school was financed by some of the wealthier Shia families in Manamah, and for a year or two it served a useful purpose.

During the next two years progress was satisfactory and undisturbed. In 1352 (1933-34), expenditure was reduced to Rs 22,000/- by means of combining classes under one teacher and various other methods of economy, but at the same time attendance at the schools increased from 828 to 966. During the following year there was a further increase in students, and a number of

5: Bahrain G-5 (1926-1937) 1937 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

871 Shia boys returned to the Manamah school. Towards the end of 1354 (1935-36) a new school was opened in Sitrah, which was attended by about 30 boys, and it is proposed that several more schools are to be opened in other districts in the Shia villages.

874 **Technical Education.** In 1936, classes were started in the Manamah and Muharraq boys' schools for teaching carpentry and simple mechanics. Two skilled carpenters and a mechanic were obtained from Syria through the Beyrout University. About a dozen boys are now learning carpentry and another class is being taught by the mechanic. They are now working in classrooms in the schools, but this arrangement is inconvenient as the noise disturbs the other classes and the space is small. A simple building is to be put up close to the school, to be fitted out as a carpentry and engineering shop.

463 In Bahrain, all carpenters, masons, and most of the mechanics are foreigners. There is great demand for good work, and masons, etc., earn very high pay. There are undoubtedly great opportunities for trained men in these professions, but the chief difficulty in teaching practical trades of this kind is that many of the boys and their parents regard such work as derogatory. They would prefer to work as clerks at lower pay than as carpenters, masons, or mechanics.

871 Education in Bahrain is not compulsory; all Government schools are free, but students are made to pay for their books and materials. It has been suggested that fees for attending school should be charged, but if this were done the attendance would be restricted to the sons and daughters of people of means, who are mostly foreigners. It has also been suggested that free education should be provided for Bahrain subjects only and that foreigners should pay, but when this question was examined it was found that almost all the children of foreign parentage attending the Government schools were legally Bahrain subjects, having been born in Bahrain and not registered as protected persons.

There is a difference in the subjects taught in the various schools. In the country schools the boys are taught reading, writing, simple arithmetic, and the Quran. Girls learn reading, writing, arithmetic, sewing, embroidery, hygiene, and Quran. They have made remarkably good progress in sewing and embroidery and now produce work which would find a ready sale. More advanced subjects are taught in the Manamah and Muharraq boys' schools, where the programme includes English, history, geography, mathematics, book-keeping, and the system of diving accounts. Leaving certificates are issued by the Department of Education to boys who pass an examination when they leave the schools from the two top forms. No boy if taken into Government service unless he possesses one of these certificates, but unfortunately their value has decreased since the Bahrain Petroleum Company has taken to employing boys who do not hold certificates. During the last two years, about sixty boys from the top classes in the Manamah and Muharraq schools left school and obtained employment as clerks and gaugers with the oil company; others have been taken into Government service as pupil teachers, apprentices in the Customs Department, and in other Government offices.

Games are encouraged at all schools, and the older boys play football. There is also a company of Boy Scouts in Manamah and Muharraq. At the end of each term a play is produced and acted by the older boys. The play is usually very topical. These entertainments are extremely popular with the public and are well produced and excellently acted.

The chief difficulties which beset the path of education are the complete lack of discipline among the boys in their own homes, the religious differences between the two sects, Shias and Sunnis, and the suspicious attitude of local people towards foreign teachers, who are essential until the people of Bahrain have attained a sufficient degree of education to fit them to be teachers. The question of punishments is another problem; none of the punishments, except corporal punishment, which are used in civilised countries have any effect in Bahrain. If boys are ordered not to come to school because they misbehave, they do not care, nor do they mind being kept back after school hours, and most of them are quite indifferent to losing marks.

Bahrain Boys at Beyrout University. In 1929, seven boys from the Government schools were sent to the Beyrout University to be educated there at Government expense. Three of them were members of the Ruling Family, the others were sons of merchants who were chosen by the headmaster of the Muharraq school. All of them were Sunnis,

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which caused considerable resentment among the Shias, although at that time the proportion of Shias at the Government schools was much lower than it is now. If more care had been given to the selection of the candidates, this experiment would have been more successful. The boys remained at Beyrout for two years; a longer course would have been more useful to them but, mainly owing to financial reasons, the Government decided not to extend their time.

Some years have now passed since these boys returned to Bahrain, and the result of their education can now be seen. In my opinion, it was successful in the case of three of the boys, moderately successful in the case of three, and a complete failure in the case of one boy. If the boys had been younger when they left Bahrain, I believe that the experiment would have been a complete success.

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Education of the Ruling Family.

In 1925, Shaikh Hamad allowed two of his sons to go as boarders to the American Mission school in Basrah. They stayed there for one term and did not return to school.

In 1930 a tutor was obtained from India to teach Shaikh Hamad's younger sons. He was well recommended and highly qualified and had previously been in charge of an Indian princeling. Although the tutor worked hard under difficult conditions and did his best to teach his pupils, it was soon apparent that his employment was a waste of his time and of the Government's money. The tutor lived in Shaikh Hamad's house, but the boys were disinclined to work and so did nothing. It was impossible to bring any compulsion on them to do their lessons. The experiment was a complete failure and, after completing one year, the tutor's agreement was not renewed.

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Future Development of Education.

There is danger in the creation of a class of semi-educated young men in Bahrain who, because they have a little learning, regard themselves as too superior to do manual work and who will become too many to find employment of a clerical nature. The people, however, especially the Shias, are urgent in their demands for increased education, and more schools, and in reply to this the Government intends to open more small country schools in the villages. A knowledge of reading, writing, and simple arithmetic is all that is needed by boys from the villages, most of whom will eventually become divers, cultivators, and fishermen. In these occupations, school education is unnecessary, though for divers and fishermen a knowledge of figures is some assurance against being swindled.

Boys who attend the town schools in Manamah and Muharraq are mostly sons of shopkeepers, merchants, and pearl traders, and many of them enter their fathers' shops and offices, where they benefit from a knowledge of accounts, book-keeping, and the more advanced education which is given at the two big schools.

If the newly started technical classes are successful, the Government will develop this experiment and, if possible, introduce more subjects which will provide lucrative employment for trained boys when they leave school. It should be possible for boys who have learned carpentry, etc., at school to secure employment with the Bahrain Petroleum Company in place of some of the many foreign artisans who are now employed by the Company.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

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Original Installation.

The possibility of introducing electricity in Manamah was first considered over ten years ago, and for some time funds were set aside for the purpose; it was not, however, till 1928 that any action was taken by the Government. That year the services of Mr. Stevenson, electrical inspector in Sind, were obtained in an advisory capacity and a scheme was prepared by him in Bahrain, together with plans for the layout and a rough specification. Bahrain was then in a prosperous condition, and it was estimated that the initial load would be not less than 2,000 lamps and 200 fans. The people in Manamah were anxious to form a public company, but after consideration this suggestion was dropped, and eventually it was decided that the scheme was to be undertaken by the Government and the Manamah Municipality.

6:Faroughy H-5 (no date)1951 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

172 southwest toward Arabia[1] — an indication that it was from there that the people originally came. The existence of similar tombs along the Arabian coast tends to support this hypothesis. Finally, for what it is worth, there is an Arab tradition that the tribe of Thamud, driven out of Yemen and across the desert, found a home on the island of Bahrein about the beginning of the second millenium B.C.

Attempts to date the Bahrein tombs by the nature of the contents have brought to light only contradictory evidence. The finding of a jar that resembles a Babylonian jar of 2500 B.C. must be weighed against the finding of bronze weapons dating from 1500-1200 B.C. It is possible that future explorations of the thousands of tumuli will yet supply an answer to the riddle, but the meager results obtained from the examination of 134 of them can hardly be called encouraging.

EDUCATION

658 The Bahrein government decided in 1934 to engage a number of Iraqi teachers for its schools. Iraq had done all in her power to attract the emirats of the Gulf into her orbit, and by 1934, when the British and Persians were fighting over the question of sovereignty over Bahrein, Iraq had made known her intention of creating a consulate in the island and establishing a school for the children of Iraqi subjects residing there. This was an effort to compete with the Persians, who since the end of World War I had conducted a school, "Tarbiat," founded originally for the education of Persian children but open also to children of other communities.

871 658 875 Bahrein today has nine elementary and one secondary school, the latter founded in 1940, and one school for girls, opened in 1939. The program of study of the Iraqi schools was adopted. At the end of 1937, a group of fifteen Syrian teachers were engaged by the government to teach in the newly founded schools. In 1940, the government engaged six Iraqi teachers to

1. According to Cornwall W.25's. is the most frequ[illegible] reading: were they oriented toward Mecca?

6:Faroughy H-5 (no date)1951 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

organize the secondary school system. The teachers received from £25 to £30 a month and "bed and board" paid by the Bahrein government. Interestingly enough, the first director of the first school opened at Muharraq was the present Saudi Arabian Minister to London, Sheik Hafiz Wahba.

At present, there is no newspaper in Bahrein. A weekly newspaper, Al Bahrein, was founded in 1939, but ceased its publication after the death of its publisher, Abdallah Za-id. In 1940 a broadcasting station was built, and the Al-Bahrein Radio started short-wave broadcasts on a 23-m, 50 band on November 4. During the war, Radio Bahrein was most useful to the Allied cause, since its four daily news broadcasts in Arabic and Persian were heard more easily throughout the Near East than those of Egypt.

Besides the schools, two "circles" for the discussion of political and literary matters were established in 1935 under the patronage of the brother of the Sheik. There was already a Cercle Israelite in the island.

ECONOMY

The geographical features and the geological formation of the islands greatly reduce the economic value of Bahrein. The scarcity of water and the sandy nature of the soil exclude agricultural development. The application of modern methods of agriculture and the utilization of artesian wells and gasoline operated pumps are too recent and too inadequate to make Bahrein even partially independent of imported food. For many years to come, and probably forever, the islands will be dependent on food, meat, vegetables, and fruits brought chiefly from the Persian or Arabian mainland.

Fortunately, in most of the islands of the Persian Gulf and the surrounding regions, wherever water is found naturally or captured artificially, date palms grow with astonishing ease. The northern part of Bahrein Island, thanks to natural springs and more recently to artesian wells, is practically a string of oases with palm groves numbering several hundred thousands.

8:Qubain S-5 (1952-53)1955 MZ2 Bahrain MZ2

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the course of development in Bahrain leaves no doubt that they will gradually be resolved. Bahrainis are receiving education at an increasing rate and are now gradually replacing these two foreign elements in clerical and intermediate positions. There will come a time when foreign labor is no longer needed. All foreign establishments in Bahrain, in response to local pressure, are now replacing foreign employees with Bahrainis, even if at the cost of some efficiency.

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Once the clerical and professional group becomes expendable, the major source of resentment will have been removed. Even if some Indians remain, the native Bahrainis will be able to compete with them on equal terms. In the case of the Persians, until the political issues primarily between the British and the Iranian governments concerning sovereignty over Bahrain are clarified, their position will stay the same.

What of the Westerners? It is my belief that the crisis is yet to come. Despite considerable talk, especially among the literate segment of the population, about exploitation, imperialism, and privileges, the Westerners' higher social status is accepted. The native population has been used for generations to think of them as a group with a special status over and above its own, and it will take some time before a mental reorientation is completed. In the second place, the native people fully realize that they need them. They may want to hate the foreign doctor but they need his medical skill; they may detest the oil company, but it supplies them with necessary royalties. The time, however, is drawing near when the problem will have to be faced. Negative nationalism and other political forces such as Communism (which at present has little influence in the Gulf) may force the issue prematurely if favorable circumstances arise.

5: Harrison D-4 (1912-1924) 1924 M1 Middle East
Maritime Arabs MK2
Bahrain MZ2

such a number of chronic running ears. The lungs are often affected, and all along the diving coast pulmonary tuberculosis is common. This is not remarkable when we know that in the opening days of the season the men frequently dive in water that is so cold that they spit blood. Many return from their summer of semi-starvation and unsuitable diet of rice and dates with their gums sore and bleeding from scurvy.

Living conditions in the community are what might be expected. Disease is common. The death rate is high. Poverty is universal. In good years the standard of life is none too high. In bad years it is reduced almost to the starvation point. During a hard year the food of the divers is poor in quality and scanty in amount almost to the degree of partial starvation. They usually live in date-stick huts, and in the winter must frequently shiver in unwarmed houses because they have no money for fuel.

In such communities there is little or no interest in education. A diver has reason enough, one might suppose, for wanting to know how to read and write and keep his own accounts, but it is rare that one of them knows as much as that, and apparently it is equally unusual to find one who is trying to educate his children so that they may escape the slavery that binds him. The boys are frequently taken out to learn pearl diving while they are still under twelve. In Bahrein the American Mission has tried for many years to develop educational work of an elementary sort, but has found it practically impossible because there is no demand for such things. The considerable Persian community in the city has made efforts from time to time to establish educational work for its own boys. The Persian schools exist for a little

5: Harrison D-4 (1912-1924) 1924 M1 Middle East
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Maritime Arabs MK2

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971 time and then break up and disappear. Few care whether
185 they live or die. One of the Bahrein sheikhs made a visit
658 to England at the invitation of the British Government about three years ago. On his return he collected nearly a hundred thousand dollars for the founding of a free public school. A large building was projected, but by inefficiency and carelessness, if not worse, the entire sum was spent on the first story of that building. Now the project languishes and seems about to die, purely because nobody cares whether it lives or not. Even Koran schools are few in number and poor in quality. There is nothing like the diffusion of education that prevails in the inland
M desert towns.

463 Although the vast majority of the people in these towns
226 are pearl divers, there are a few fishermen and a smaller number who gain a precarious livelihood as sailors in Arab sailing ships. There are abundant supplies of fish in all these harbors, but fishing is a very unpopular occupation. It is hard, disagreeable work, and the men must frequently be out in the little boats all night. When times are good and the captain's allowances liberal, nobody is willing to fish. When the pearl catch is bad or the price low every one feels poor, many eke out their small resources by this additional work, and fish becomes plenti-
M ful and cheap.

505 There were once many sea-going sail boats engaged in carrying various cargoes from port to port in this district, for the Arabs are bold navigators and can travel in these ships from India to the Suez Canal. They still bring goods from the various East African ports to Arabia, and rarely fail to make these long trips successfully, but the work is hard, and since the steamers of the "Ingleez" have absorbed more and more of the better

proximately 26,000 residents, and Hedd, a pearl fishing center, around 10,000. The population exceeded that of the 1941 census by almost 20,000: the increase was confined mainly to the towns of Manama and Muharraq, and was attributed in large part to immigration.

Since the organization of the first government school in 1919, education has made considerable progress, but expansion is handicapped by a shortage of trained teaching personnel. In 1950, the Bahrain government supported 13 primary schools for boys —8 in the towns and 5 in the villages. Educational facilities were made available to girls in 1928, and at present 6 primary schools are in operation. Of the 5,770 pupils registered in government schools in 1950-51, slightly over 1,700 were girls. A few private schools are established in Manama, while Koranic schools are found in most towns and villages. The government also maintains a secondary school, a technical school and a school hostel for boys, and provides scholarships for qualified students for advanced study at the American University of Beirut and in Great Britain. In the recent census, the literacy rate in the indigenous population was estimated at 10 per cent.

Vital Statistics

The registration of births and deaths is not compulsory in Bahrain, and no data for the calculation of vital statistics are obtainable. Local medical authorities agree that the mortality rates in infancy and early childhood are uniformly high. Observations made by the census enumerators in 1950 suggest that the infant mortality is particularly serious in the rural villages, in contrast with the towns, where living conditions have improved within recent years. The maternal mortality rates are correspondingly high.

The size of the population remained practically stationary in the rural districts in the 9-year interval between the first and the second census surveys. The rate of increase in areas outside the towns of Ma-

64: Shwadran S-4 (no date) 1955 MI Middle East
Bahrein M22

one went to the Sheikh for the maintenance of his household and family; one was for current Government expenses and development projects; and one for investments abroad as a reserve for future contingencies. With the increase in income—directly from oil revenue and indirectly from customs duties—as a result of the Company's activities, Government services increased and a number of development projects were undertaken. By 1951 there were three hospitals on the islands—the American Mission Hospital and the Company hospital mentioned above, a Government hospital for men and women operated by a British staff, including a section for the mentally ill—as well as a number of municipal clinics. General health conditions were not good: malaria and other fevers and dysentery were prevalent; bilharzia, trachoma and hookworm took a heavy toll; and above all, a large proportion of the population was infected with venereal diseases. Medical services were supplied to every Bahreini free of charge.

Though there had been some educational facilities before the development of the oil industry,[22] it was not until 1934 that the Government engaged a number of Iraqi teachers and enlarged the facilities. By 1951 there were nine elementary schools, one secondary school, founded in 1940, and one school for girls opened in 1939, all tuition-free. The schools were staffed with 258 teachers, who instructed some 6,000 boys and girls. The Government, in conjunction with the Company, also provided scholarships to graduates of the secondary schools for study abroad.

The Government built roads, bridges, harbors and a large airport; water was supplied from artesian wells instead of being brought in by boat; and efforts were made to improve housing conditions. Though without a single newspaper in 1951, Bahrein had a broadcasting station, built in 1940 for Allied war purposes, a dial telephone system, forty miles of roads and 2,000 automobiles. Most of the streets of the main towns were electrically lighted, and a sewerage system had been installed. The net result was a higher standard of living for the Bahreinis, not only in comparison with their own pre-oil standard, but also with the people of the neighboring states.[23]

[22] In 1926 there was one school for boys only, and it was poorly attended. James Bell, "He Said Forward! to the Backward," *Life*, Nov. 17, 1952.

[23] U.N., *Summary 1952-53*, 58-59; Sanger, *The Arabian Peninsula*, 148-149;